THE EUROPEAN HARVEST FIELD

Articles on Europe
Missionary Letters

Published monthly except July and August
by the
AMERICAN-EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP
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1936

Jesus rose from out the grave,
All its strong bonds breaking;
From the silent sleep of death
To full life awaking;
And because our Saviour Lord
Now forever liveth,
We who love Him, too, shall live
In the life He giveth.

Jesus rose, and proved His power
By that rising glorious;
From the mighty grasp of death
He came forth victorious;
And His Word shall stand for aye—
As He ever liveth,
He unto His own beloved
Life immortal giveth.

—Selected.

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Published monthly (except July and August) by the American-European Fellowship for Christian Oneness and Evangelization

1213 North Franklin Street Philadelphia, Penna.

VOL. XVII, No. 4 ARNO C. GAEBELEIN, D.D., *Editor* HERBERT HOGG, *Managing Editor* **April, 1936**

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Notify us at once of change of address, giving both old and new addresses and writing plainly.

We shall be thankful for names and addresses of Christian friends, to whom we may send sample copies of the magazine. We appreciate your sympathetic co-operation with us.

CONTENTS

		PAGE
SEVEN FIRST RESURRECTION MORNING NUGGETS	*By Rev. Wm. McCarrell*	2
THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT	*By Rev. Herbert Hogg*	6
AN APPEAL FOR PRAYER	*By Prof. W. Marcinkowski*	7
OPPORTUNITY IN AUSTRIA		8
ON RUSSIA'S BORDER	*By Ivan Moriakoff*	9
AWAKENING ALBANIA	*By Edwin Jacques*	10
A COMMUNIST SAVED	*By John Kovalchuk*	13
REACHING OTHER REGIONS	*By George Nazaruk*	15
BLESSING AMID OPPOSITION	*By Fred Stettler*	17
A DIFFICULT MINISTRY	*By C. Marvakoff*	20
A WONDERFUL DELIVERANCE	*By A. Svarichevsky*	21
BLIND, HARDENED HEARTS	*By Charles Lukesh*	23
RESTORATION	*By D. Prystupa*	24

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DEVOTIONAL AND EDITORIAL

Seven First Resurrection Morning Nuggets

By Rev. William McCarrell

(Cicero, Illinois)

1. In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first *day* of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow:

4 And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead *men*.

5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye; for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

6 He is not here; for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay:

7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.

8 And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy, and did run to bring his disciples word.

9 And as they went to tell his disciples, behold Jesus met them, saying, All hail! And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.

10 Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost;

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

Matthew 28: 1-10, 18-20

Resurrection Power

SUPERNATURAL power is emphasized in God's account of the first resurrection morning. The stone rolled back, the subdued guards, the great earthquake, the heavenly angel with lightning-like countenance and raiment white as snow, and *especially* the empty grave, evidenced supernatural power in natural, spiritual, and heavenly realms (Matt. 28: 1-6). Such power is ever available for saved ones in their resurrected Saviour—power sufficient to overcome every natural obstacle to personal, bodily resurrection (John 5: 28, 29); sufficient to overcome every hindrance to daily, victorious, fruitful, spiritual living (Rom. 6: 1-11); also, sufficient for every need for heavenly life (Eph. 1: 20-22; Heb. 7: 25). In this world, mankind is continuously struggling for power in the physical, mental, religious, governmental, financial, and military realms. Mankind's attention is riveted upon the present struggle for power

in the air. Saved ones should remember, in the midst of many problems, heartaches, and catastrophes caused by man's unavailing struggle for power, that all power in heaven and earth is in Christ (Matt. 28: 18) and that He desires to manifest this power in and through them. An educated, blind atheist, saved from depths of sin and misery in Chicago, testified that after receiving salvation through faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, he was judgment-proof for eternity and cared for in this life.

Resurrection Victory

Supernatural victory was experienced on the first resurrection morning. Jesus' resurrection evidenced triumph over mankind, the grave, death, sin, Satan, and hell. This triumph was further evidenced by the victorious change in saved ones. Darkness was changed to light, doubt (especially as to Jesus' person and work) to assurance, despair to hope, sorrow to joy, spiritual weakness to spiritual strength, fear to courage, silence to testimony, fruitlessness to fruitfulness, and God-dishonoring defeat to God-honoring victory. Saved ones ever need to remember that Christ, who lives at God's right hand for them, also lives in them (Col. 1: 27) and yearns to so live through them as to demonstratingly prove His resurrection triumph. A Scotch girl said that it was hard to tell, since receiving Jesus, whether she had changed or the world had changed, but she did know there was a wonderful change. A Chicago policeman, while planning to murder his wife and commit suicide, heard a message setting forth the gospel. He received the living Christ as Saviour; plans for murder and suicide faded; his life changed! Today he gives wide-spread testimony to the reality of victorious life through Jesus Christ. A young believer, who had experienced remarkable change in life following salvation, met an atheist, who was hurling doubts about Christ and the Word, with the challenge, "*Explain me.*"

Resurrection Blessedness

Wondrous blessedness was evidenced the first resurrection morning. Indescribable peace, joy, and rest in Christ were experienced. Heavenly comfort flooded tested souls. Adoring worship resulted. Fellowship surpassing human description was enjoyed. Christ became their conversation, life, sufficiency, all-in-all. The resurrected Saviour, who so fellowshipped as to cause hearts to burn (Luke 24: 29-32), is still able and anxious to so bless saved ones (Eph. 2: 6; Col. 3: 1-4). His resurrection blessedness imparts victory over sin (Rom. 8: 2). As with Peter, it cures backsliding. It results in opening of God's Word (Luke 24: 25-27) and of minds to understand it (Luke 24: 45). It directs in, and also equips and enables for, God-honoring service (Matt. 28: 18-20). It makes Christ realistically precious (Luke 24: 27-29). The writer possesses a letter revealing a continuously-increasing, precious, and wondrous fellowship with the living Christ. It was written with a fountain pen operated by a carpenter-constructed apparatus, fastened to the body of the writer. The pen functioned as the body was moved. The body is in constant pain, with limbs and arms amputated. Many such letters have gone forth, spiritually enriching Christians and saving precious souls. The woman's home is fittingly called "Gladwish." Many healthy Christians have

been encouraged, comforted, and spiritually edified, also many souls saved, through the ministry emanating from it.

Resurrection Assurance

Heaven-imparted assurance featured the first resurrection morning—assurance that Satan, sin, death, and hell had been defeated; that a conquering Christ was sufficient for every need in time and eternity; that a miraculous Christ lived in the midst of saved ones (Matt. 18:20; I Cor. 6:19, 20); assurance of personal identification with Him (Gal. 2:20; Eph. 2:6). An atheist asked a Christian, "How can you believe in the death and resurrection of one who lived 2000 years ago and whom you've never seen?" The Christian replied, "I talked to Him an hour this morning." Christ's resurrection assures every saved one of personal acceptance by God, of God's being satisfied with Christ's work for their sins (Rom. 4:25), of an interceding High Priest and Keeper (Rom. 8:34; Heb. 7:25), of supply of everything needed for this life and the life to come (Eph. 1:19-23), also "that He which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus" (II Cor. 4:14). A father remarked to his dying daughter that she did not have much of a body left. She replied, "I will have a new one in heaven, Daddy."

Resurrection Body

The supernatural, resurrected body of Jesus was the climacteric feature of the first resurrection morning. A tangible, recognizable, powerful, spiritual, miraculous body, which followers saw, handled, and lived with, evidenced Jesus' ability to carry His own through death and the grave, thus fulfilling His promise: "He that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live" (John 11:25, 26). The sting of death was removed (I Cor. 15:55-57). How comforting to know that His resurrection is the firstfruits of every saved one's resurrection (I Cor. 15:23)! Often those ordering a dress or suit receive a piece of goods as a firstfruits (sample) of the dress or suit to come. "Firstfruits" serves not only as a positive guarantee, but also as a description. As Jesus' body was tangible, personal, recognizable, spiritual, and miraculous, so will be the resurrected body of every saved one. The bodily presence of Jesus on resurrection morning assures Christians that their bodily resurrection will be a change from corruption to incorruption, and from mortality to immortality; that their weak, natural, earthly, and dishonorable bodies will be exchanged for powerful, spiritual, heavenly, glorified bodies (I Cor. 15:42-53). The writer has often comforted Christians, while viewing the remains of a loved one who has departed to be with Christ, by reminding that the next time they see that loved one they will see him glorified. A mother, at the casket of her Christian daughter, remarked, "Farewell. You've been a lovely daughter to me. I shall have you back in the resurrection."

Resurrection Importance

Realization of the *supreme importance of Jesus' resurrection* permeated the first resurrection morning. The Lord's enemies, then and since, realizing the same, made it an object of attack, thus hardening themselves. All human and supernatural opposi-

tion collapses before it. The book of Acts reveals how early believers realized its momentous importance, triumphantly proclaimed it, and tenaciously contended for its vital relationship to everything Christian. Without Christ's bodily resurrection, they had nothing before God. With it, they had everything needed for life and death, earth and heaven. The bodily resurrection of Christ increases in importance as time progresses. It is vitally associated with Jesus' deity (John 2: 19-22; Rom. 1: 4). Bible inspiration and authority stand or fall with it (Luke 24: 25-27). Without it, there is no gospel (I Cor. 15: 1-4), and Christian faith is non-existent (I Cor. 15: 14-17). It is necessary for salvation (Rom. 10: 9, 10), Christian growth (Phil. 3: 8-10), Christian living (Rom. 6: 1-6), and future glory (I Cor. 15: 17-19). It hs been rightly referred to as the *Waterloo* of all opposition to God and as the *Gibraltar* of Christian faith.

Resurrection Proclamation

God-energized proclamation began on and continues since the first resurrection morning. Jesus' resurrection permitted them to declare that God had witnessed to His approval of all Jesus' claims to deity and Saviourhood, as well as God's acceptance of Jesus' work for sin on Calvary; that salvation was provided for all; that everything needed for spiritual life, service, and heavenly arrival was now assured. It made possible the carrying of joyous, triumphant, salvation-producing news—the greatest message mankind ever has heard or ever will hear—a proclamation that delights God, honors Christ, and pleases the Holy Spirit. It ever advances Christ's cause, especially as regards missions. While resurrection proclamation conveys a glorious news, it also conveys a *solemn* message. It includes warning to unsaved mankind that He (God) "hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath *given assurance* unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead" (Acts 17: 31).

A resurrected Christ commands followers to proclaim the resurrection message to all mankind. Being a recipient of resurrection life obligates followers to so witness. Such privilege, responsibility, and honor calls for dedication of entire life to the task. How comforting to know that the resurrected Christ enables saved ones to obediently proclaim the message! Christ lives in saved ones in order to proclaim resurrection truth through them by word and life. Sir James Simpson, the great Christian physician who discovered anaesthetics, found great comfort in Bible resurrection truth. After burying his eldest child, he erected an obelisk pointing heavenward, and had engraved on it: "*Nevertheless I live.*"

As resurrection life and deliverance from judgment for sin cannot be experienced apart from salvation, God-pleasing resurrection proclamation necessitates a setting forth of salvation through the shed blood and finished work of Christ on Calvary. Proper presentation of such a gospel necessitates explanation as to how to accept Christ's salvation. A man, forced to explain briefly to another how to accept Christ, asked the name of the one with whom he was dealing. Learning it was Tucker, he explained how to be saved by reading John 3: 16 to him as follows:

> "For God so loved Mr. Tucker (the world) that He gave His only begotten Son, that Mr. Tucker (whosoever) believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life."

The Fruit of the Spirit

(Galatians 5: 22)

By Pastor Herbert Hogg

STRANGE as it may seem to us, in this day of bustle and go, when so much emphasis is placed upon the social gospel, God is more concerned about the being and character of His children than their service. There is great danger that Christians forget this and get into the rush of modern life, seeking to measure their Christian experience and attainment by the amount of their activities.

Of many it can be said, "Once it was my working." How blessed when we enter into the joy and power of "His it hence shall be." God's way is quality rather than quantity. He wants to give the impact of holy, separated lives. How often do we see that God's answer to unbelief and disbelief is through the sanctity of life of those who know God! Not argument, but the power of a Spirit-filled life tells.

The word spoken and the deed done, when in the blessing of the Spirit, count. On the other hand, much activity and excitement may produce seeming results, but, really, it is a bubble soon exploded with no lasting benefit.

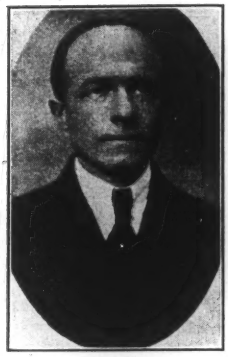
We should ask for, receive, and count on the fruit of the Spirit. It is best in the long pull of circumstances. It makes testimony ring true. It produces enduring service. Oh, to abound, then, in this great resource of overcoming, fruitful, Christian experience!

THE First Russian Non-Denominational Christian Conference in America is to be held, God willing, in the Labor Temple, 242 East Fourteenth Street, New York City, from Thursday, April 30th, to Sunday, May 3rd, inclusive. Particulars of the Conference were given in the March "Harvest Field." Pray for this Conference. Attend and invite others.

✠

REV. AND MRS. EDWIN E. JACQUES, of Albania, plan (D. V.) to be in the New York City district May 11th to 28th and would be free for week-day appointments. Can show costumes and pictures and tell of the work. Folks within fifty miles of New York could secure their services by writing to them, 650 Stevens Street, Lowell, Mass., or during the above period, care of Raymond A. Mellen, 50 Morningside Drive, New York City.

An Appeal for Prayer



DR. JAMES EWKE

In Haifa (Palestine) there is a great need for a good doctor's assistant in a Christian dispensary, where an excellent chance is given to witness the gospel to the Jews, in many personal talks as well as in public meetings. Hundreds of patients seek physical help in this dispensary. They also eagerly visit the meetings and Bible classes arranged in this institution.

Dr. James Ewke, well known to the readers of THE EUROPEAN HARVEST FIELD, would be just the suitable person for this post in Haifa. He lives at present in Prague. There he finished his medical studies at the university quite a number of years ago. Since then, he has practiced at various hospitals and clinics of that city.

Unfortunately, as a foreigner, he has no right now to practice as a doctor in Czechoslovakia. At the same time, he is longing to live in Palestine. As "an Israelite indeed," who found Him of whom Moses did write, Jesus of Nazareth, he wishes to bring the good news to his brothers and sisters in the flesh.

The Christian dispensary at Haifa is not able to support another doctor. They gladly agreed to give the post to Dr. Ewke, under the condition that some other missionary Board would send him and care for him. Such combination has already been practiced in Palestine with good results. The monthly support for a doctor there is ten pounds (English money). The American European Fellowship has agreed to help in this matter. Is it not the appeal of God to some of the Christians in the U. S. A. to give their aid, thus promoting the cause of the Lord in the Holy Land?

I have known Dr. Ewke personally for more than fifteen years. He is an honest, consecrated, humble Christian, a member of the Christian Student Movement in Russia. He suffered much for the sake of his open testimony to the gospel. For this reason, he could not finish his medical studies in U. S. S. R., so he had to complete them in Czechoslovakia. In Prague we worked together among the students for many years. His Christian medical booklets are highly spiritual and very popular in many countries. He is also a very able preacher and lecturer. Palestine needs just this kind of man and I can warmly recommend him.

(Signed) W. MARCINKOWSKI,
Mt. Carmel,
Haifa,
Palestine.

HAIFA AND MT. CARMEL

Opportunity In Austria

AUSTRIA is one of the European countries that suffered most under the cruel counter-reformation that started soon after Luther's Reformation, when the whole of Austria was Protestant and had the Bible. The Catholic rulers, under the pressure of Rome, joined hands with the church to quench the light of the gospel and press the people back into the Bibleless church. Hundreds of thousands were driven out of their beloved homeland, not being permitted to take any of their belongings with them. Even their children had to be left behind, in the hands of the monks and nuns. Others were cruelly put to death in those terrible dungeons of the Middle Ages, or burned at the stake. The Bibles were burned in the open market places, and spies were sent all over the mountains and through the valleys to capture those who met in secret to worship God and to read the Bible.

MISS E. H. STEYRER

That is why Austria lost the Bible and is now in need of teachers and workers to bring the true Word of God back to them. Only a little over forty years ago, Protestants could get no positions in the government. Their business was hindered on all sides and they had no right in the country. When freedom came at last, under Francis Joseph I, Protestantism started to grow and is now expanding more and more. Workers and pastors, true men of God (Pastor Monsky being one of them), came over from Germany and Switzerland to help, and Protestant schools, churches, and hospitals sprung up. About three years ago, open persecution started anew. Dollfuss, a willing tool in the hand of Rome, said: "The Bible must disappear from Austria."

A law was passed that no child whose parents did not belong to a church, could attend any school. In this way the government thought they could drive back into the Catholic church all those who, through the years of intense suffering, had become utterly discouraged. Without the Word of God in their hands, they had no foundation for their faith and they gave up, saying, "There is no God." But only comparatively few turned back to the Catholic churches, while tens of thousands came to the Protestant pastors and mission workers, asking to be instructed and to be taken into their churches. More and more are coming all the time, and the need of workers, true Christians who know the Bible, is great. The following statement will show you how Catholics work among their own people in Protestant countries, and how neglected our discouraged, drifting people are in Austria.

In Iceland, for example, there are 500 Catholics, not quite one per cent of the whole population. Among them there are laboring one bishop, eight monks, thirty nuns, and eight missionary sisters, while we have districts with over 500 Protestants without a single worker. In Norway, there are about 2,750 Catholics, with one bishop, 31 priests, 420 nuns, in 17 churches, 14 hospitals, and 9 schools. We have a community with 10,000 souls, and one church with room for 200 people. In Sweden, there are 4300 Catholics, with one bishop, 23 priests, and 123 nuns. In our church, we have one worker for 2,000 people, while only a very few churches have a deaconess or pastor's assistant or mission worker.

Is it surprising, then, that Rome's power is ever growing? Is it any wonder that many, many people, who have been born in Protestant families and

should have the Bible, are drifting and lost? A priest was once asked by a Protestant pastor how the Catholic church is able to send out so many workers and build so many churches, hospitals, and schools. He frankly replied: "Preach purgatory in your churches and you will have the means to do it, too." Oh, that God's Christian stewards might be touched by this sad account, and realize what their duty is before God and what He wants them to do, so that we may be able to carry the gospel to all those needy people, for whom our Lord and Saviour died, without having to preach such a terrible thing as purgatory!

Miss Steyrer, an Austrian by birth, grew up in the Catholic church, without the Bible, and then, in time of need and suffering, lost faith in God, not having the sound foundation of the Scriptures under her feet. She can understand and sympathize with her people in their need, and her heart goes out to them with a deep longing to be used in the hand of God to bring the gospel of Jesus Christ to them, so that they might find the wonderful peace that came into her heart when she found the Lord, many years ago, in England.

We know that "whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved," but—"How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach, except they be sent?"

"Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest." Pray also that, if it is God's will that Miss Steyrer should go back to Austria to work among her own people, where she had been laboring under Pastor Monsky before she was sent to America, He may touch the hearts of His stewards here and send all that is necessary for support and passage, thus making it possible for her to go out soon. She hopes to sail in June, if balance of her support is forthcoming. Pray with and for her that all may be speedily provided.

ON RUSSIA'S BORDER

By Ivan Moriakoff

(Esthonia)

WE HAVE a very large missionary field here in Esthonia, right on the Russian border. I am very busy in the work, visiting many villages. Since our district is counted as a military one, we must have special permits from the authorities, but, thank God, I have received a permit to preach in twenty-four villages, which spread out along the Russian frontier.

I told you before that we had frequent disturbances in our meetings. I am glad to say that now, in these same places, we have very quiet services. The people have changed their attitude toward our preaching.

I have just returned home from a missionary journey, only to find a visitor here from another village, who had come to invite me to preach in his home. Sometimes I am perplexed, as I am not really able to satisfy all the demands for preaching services, and yet I cannot refuse any such requests.

I recently held a meeting on a farm, which was attended by people from seven villages. They listened to the glad tidings with tears in their eyes. We do not have inquirers at present—the people are all mere listeners. I was happy to observe some Russians of the Orthodox church in our meetings. They had brought their New Testaments in their pockets. These are old editions of the Russian Synod. When I read from my Bible, they examine their Testaments and seem quite satisfied when they find that we read the same Word.

It gives me great joy to tell you that, in the vicinity of my home, there are new converts now in seven villages. I regret that I am not able to meet all the spiritual needs of the many people round about me.

Brother Mosherenok has visited us again and held many meetings with me, which were attended with special blessing. Our brother administered the holy communion to our converts here.

I am very thankful to God and to you brethren for the generous help I have from you, which supports my missionary activity.

"Mrs. Hill's article was a real blessing to my soul. In fact, I look forward each month for my copy of the Harvest Field. We read it through and then pass it on to Christian friends. We feel we know each one personally, who is on the field under your mission, and as we pray we remember them as a whole at the Throne of Grace."

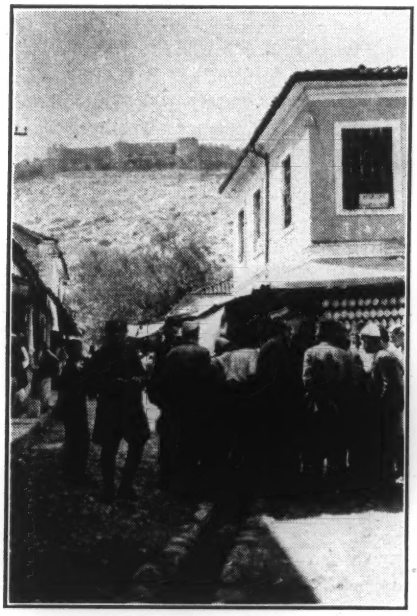
Awakening Albania

"ROUND about unto Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ," wrote the Apostle Paul, to the Romans (Rom. 15: 19). Well-nigh two thousand years have rolled by and ancient Illyria has passed with time, leaving the remnant of a people and the substance of a language to survive in modern Albania. Falling into the hands of the Turks, Albania was denied her mother tongue and forbidden the gospel, once so faithfully and fully preached to her. Islam ruled with an iron hand, and the law of Islam was no knowledge but the knowledge of Mohammed. A form of Christianity struggled on, straying and languishing for lack of the Word of God, while Mohammedanism claimed the larger number of Albanians, who were ready, for political reasons, to side with the ruling power. The people remained a distinctive people, although the use of the Albanian tongue was banned and illiteracy forced upon them by the Turks. It seemed no hand could ever move the bolts and bars which shut out the Word of God from Albania. No hand but One! "Ah Lord God! behold, Thou hast made the heaven and the earth by Thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for Thee" (Jer. 32: 17).

MESSRS. JACQUES AND CHENO EN ROUTE TO ISOLATED MOUNTAIN VILLAGES

In the year 1928, after the devastation of the Great War, Albania, delivered from the Turk, became a kingdom under the headship of King Zog. As in other countries, suddenly emancipated and brought into touch with the modern world, Albania has received a medley of new ideas, which bewilder a people isolated for so long. Western customs, Western costume, Western transport invade Albania's chief towns. Education is no longer banned. Books are in vogue where hitherto they were smuggled into the country by the highly adventurous. The alphabet is studied everywhere, and in the prisons the mastery of A. B. C. takes the place of hard labour. Now is the opportunity for the gospel to speak through the printed page. The world's trashy reading matter will be eagerly devoured, but, given by earnest workers, the Word of God will find its way into hungry hearts.

Two such workers—our brother, Mr. E. E. Jacques, and Mr. Cheno, his Albanian colleague—have been itinerating with Albanian, Turkish, and Arabic Scriptures. Commencing at Scutari, a large market centre, they have journeyed from place to place on horseback and on foot, over rough mountain tracks and through hot plains, the haunt of teasing insects. Night has found them sleeping in close quarters with other travellers or stretched out on the wooden benches of a coffee-house, to obtain what rest they could. On reaching a town, they proceeded to the market, where they distributed their Scriptures through every shop and office, courteously presenting a Gospel to everyone over seventeen who could read at all. With a government permit, they made their way, for the most part unmolested, but in some places the Moslems were roused to anger against Christian teaching. A soft answer, however, turned away wrath, and the disturbance had the effect of opening doors rather than closing them. Many precious verses of Scripture were read aloud to enquirers by the Albanian helper, who has the great advantage of being able to speak Bulgarian, Albanian, Greek, English, and German. To peasant and official, soldier and



INTERESTED GROUP AT GOSPEL STAND

priest, prisoner in jail and busy shopkeeper in the market, the Scriptures were freely given and immediately read by numbers of people as they walked the streets. Occasionally there was the definite encouragement of a word of thanks or a request for more, but here, as elsewhere, the sower's work is a work of faith.

In a report recently received, our brother, Mr. Jacques, writes: "God has been very gracious in enabling us to complete this task of spreading His Word throughout Albania. Just two months have been devoted to this work. We rejoice to know that the gospel—the very words of the Lord Jesus Christ—has entered into homes throughout the length and breadth of this country. We have given out: 20,100 Albanian Scripture booklets, 1,002 Albanian Gospels, 390 foreign Gospels, 145 Albanian Bible portions, and 30 New Testaments, also about 1,500 Scripture leaflets in foreign languages (mainly Greek, Arabic, and Turkish).

"Where it is possible to be in a town for its weekly market day, the results are much better, Not only are all the townsmen present, but villagers from miles and miles around. In many instances, they travel on foot ten hours to reach the market, some travel for fifteen hours, and one man with his horse came down from the inaccessible mountains, thirty hours away. Market work is the only hope of reaching such. During our work in Tirana, the capital, Mrs. Jacques co-operated with her house-to-house distribution. This method is quite out of the question for men.

"Here are just a few experiences. It was a a crowded market day in Fier. Many soldiers and gendarmes were in evidence. One, seeing the tripod, asked if we were going to take a photograph. We asked if he wanted his picture taken. He did. (Everybody does here!) So, while one set up the stand, the other 'took the picture.' First, it was explained to the attentive gendarme and his companions that the usual apparatus recorded only the outside appearance, but that this photograph was of the heart. Then, taking the booklet, 'Way of Salvation,' he read aloud the portion—'Man's Guilt before God.'

"One approaching the stand was offered a Scripture booklet. Glancing at it, he replied in English: 'That speaks about Jesus. We don't need Jesus—we need only the almighty dollar!' Like many others, he had learned too much during his sojourn in America. When told that the 'almighty dollar' couldn't be of the slightest use to him after a few more years, he laughed.

"In the capital one hundred and twenty young Moslems are studying in their school, the Medressa —many of them destined for their priesthood. Now, in addition to Arabic, Persian, and Turkish, they also study the English language. To my amazement, a student informed me that this would enable them to cooperate with the Ahmaddija movement of Lahore, India. This is a Moslem reform movement designed to make a strong appeal to intellectual people. They have sent missionaries and built mosques in England, America, and Germany. In addition, they carry on a very extensive propaganda through Moslem publications in the English language. Certain Albanian students have been sent to Egypt and India for university training as future Moslem missionaries. Thus, while I am here evangelizing their people, they may be in the United States 'evangelizing' mine! Arabic, Turkish, and English Scripture portions were given to them, besides the Albanian 'Way of Salvation.' They especially prized the English translation of this

latter booklet. Comparing the two, they hope to learn English better. Pray that, through the diligent study of these booklets, they may learn of Him, whom to know aright is life eternal.

"While going among the shops, the owner of a coffee-house drew from his pocket a very dilapidated copy of 'God Hath Spoken,' and asked if we had distributed them. His friend had received it in a city three hours away by bus. On bringing it home, a group of Russellites had made a study of it—chapter by chapter, for several nights. He was very happy to receive a 'Way of Salvation.'

"Many have replied, when offered a booklet of Scripture: 'I don't need that! I have the Bible at church.' They hear it nowhere else, and there they don't understand it! As a reaction, there is a growing number of Russellites in the country. These reactionaries, together with others, deplore the ignorance of the priests, and the vanity of endless masses and ceremonies. Several have inquired why we don't come and preach the gospel. The manager of an Electric Company at first made light of the books. After a brief conversation, however, he revealed that he had a desire for spiritual things, but was absolutely 'fed up with this churchcraft.' 'If you come here to preach,' he declared, 'I will be the first to come to your meetings.'

"These two months have been a complex of cursing and blessing. A few have torn up the booklets in our very face; a few others have clasped us by the hand and said sincerely, 'May the Lord accept the service you do Him.' Between these two extremes of sneering rejection and warm appreciation, lies the great body of Albanian people. Twenty thousand Scripture booklets! One thousand Gospels! Distributed one by one! Where are they? Who has them? What is happening down in thousands of hearts? Anything?

"Just this morning, as we were eating breakfast by lamplight, we looked across the native earth-floor and 'hyat' (oriental piazza) into the gloom and the driving rain. The orange trees were lashed and whipped by the tempest. Together we marvelled over God's goodness in enabling us first to complete this long task. Understand, and marvel with us. On August 22d we were to begin work in Scutari. It was raining. Prospects were gloomy. However, by the time the city offices opened and our permit was verified, the sun was out. Our work began. God blessed our efforts with fair weather—which was essential. Only once during those two months did it rain. On that day we were already located in the Tirana public market, under the only public market shelter in the country. The work was concluded, with continuous fair weather, on Saturday, October 19th. 'And then the Storm King came, and he was tyrannous and strong.' All day Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday we have had a downpour, interspersed with terrific electric storms. But the work is done! This morning, however, at breakfast, musings would persist: what lasting results will come? Will there be anything tangible? Oh, there must be! Hasn't God favoured this work from its very inception? Though we extended well into the rainy season, didn't He regulate the rains? Then came the comprehension: *rain—Word* (Isaiah 55). Wonderful connection! 'As the rain cometh down . . . so shall my Word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.' He who regulates the rains is He who orders the Word. And as surely as He has already done the one, will He do the other. Oh, glorious God! Help us to believe all that Thou hast promised!

"In concluding this special effort, and this report, may I express my personal gratitude for the privilege which has been mine in working with you these weeks? We are confident it will prove a spiritually productive piece of work.

"Albania—the old Illyrian field—its rich loam is ploughed up again for the Seed! We go forward with faces towards the dawn of another day, in which it may be said once more, 'Unto Illyricum we have fully preached the gospel of Christ.' "

—From Scripture Gift Mission News Bulletin.

"HELPING TOGETHER BY PRAYER"

ONE of the friends of the work, after reading the March number of THE HARVEST FIELD, wrote us as follows: "I am so sorry to read of Miss Christoffersen's danger. I am constantly praying for them all, that they may be spared to carry on the wonderful work they are doing, that they may have faith and courage, and that they may be faithful to the very end."

A Communist Saved

By John Kovalchuk

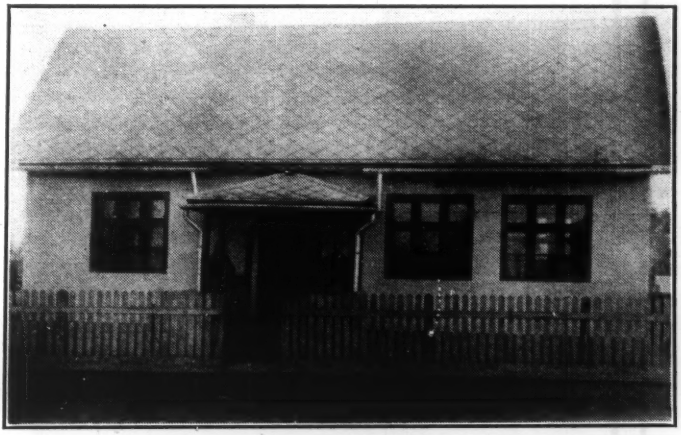
FOR my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts" (Isa. 55: 8-9).

It was the will of God for us to buy a lot and to build a prayer hall on it, right in the center of the town of Bustino, in the midst of a Carpatho-Russian neighborhood which was strongly poisoned with communistic teaching. When we began building, we met with various kinds of opposition. They tried to frighten us by threatening to burn the hall and break the windows, and by saying that they would put up a communistic hall for their meetings right beside our prayer hall and thus hinder our missionary work. They also said that when the revolution broke out and the government would be turned over into the hands of the communists, our hall would be the first building in Bustino that they would take for their own purposes, etc., etc.

"They laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, What is this thing that ye do? . . . Then answered I them, and said unto them: The God of heaven, He will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build" (Neh. 2: 19, 20). They surely were saying the same words as those enemies of Nehemiah: "What do these feeble Jews (or sectarians, as they call us)? Will they fortify themselves? Will they sacrifice? Will they make an end in a day? Will they revive the stones out of the heaps of the rubbish which are burned?" Like Nehemiah, we prayed: "Hear, O our God, for we are despised, etc." We prayed that the Lord would open their eyes so that they might see what they were doing and repent of their wickedness, seeking God's forgiveness through Christ Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, who died for us on the Cross of Calvary.

Now we wish to share our exceeding joy with all the friends of God's work here, especially those who prayed for the prayer hall here and helped us build it. Our mutual prayers are being wonderfully and definitely answered. Since the opening of our hall, the people of Bustino have become more and more interested in the gospel news, and the number of those attending our services is gradually increasing. They listen to the Word of God with great attention and interest and help us sing the gospel hymns very heartily. Our communistic neighbors around us, with only a few exceptions, are also attending our services, even those who were bitter enemies of God's work. This came about in the following way:

The leader of the communistic party here, a very earnest, able, and intelligent young man, who was the instigator and power of the party, has become sick with tuberculosis. This condition has changed his opinion toward God and His holy Word. He became very much disappointed with the communistic ideals, which could not satisfy his heart's longing, even in the past, when he would have given his very life for those ideals; and now, when he is sick and possibly facing death, none of his com-



New Prayer Hall at Bustino

munistic friends seem specially interested in him, and, in addition, he has no consolation or hope for what lies beyond the grave. The Holy Spirit seems to be definitely speaking to him. He has become a very attentive listener at our services, which he attends regularly. Not only that, but he also borrows the Bible and other good spiritual literature from our library and is reading much, with great interest and eagerness. A few days ago, he told one of our members that as soon as the warm weather comes and we have our first baptismal service, he will be the first one to make a covenant with the Lord in baptism, accepting Him and promising Him to be faithful to Him. Praise the Lord! Surely, God's Word is true and unchangeable. It says: "My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

I also wish to tell you about another enemy of the Lord's work here. The priests of both the Greek Catholic and Greek Orthodox churches are very jealous and do all they can to hinder our work. Last Sunday, the Greek Orthodox priest, during the services in his church, opening and furiously talked to his people against us, advising them not to go to our services, to burn all the Gospels and other literature that they got from us, and not to have anything to do with us. The Greek Catholic priest tries to imitate us in some things. When he learned from the children who attend our Sunday school that we have Christmas programs for them and they are given candy, he also had a Christmas program for his children and gave them some candy. Some time ago, he heard that we had talks on the Second Coming of our Lord in our services, and he also tried to talk in his church on the same subject.

In spite of all the opposition, our services are very well attended. We had to make five additional benches for our congregation to sit on. Our hall is overcrowded with people—young, middle-aged, and old. We have four services every week in Bustino, besides the Sunday Schools—one for the adults and another for the children—and other services in other places in our wide region.

We ask all our friends to continue praying with us for the Lord's work here in this dark country, that this people may hear the glad news of salvation through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

LETTER FROM RUSSIA

WE HAVE just received a brief letter from Russia. The writer is the young daughter of Christian parents, who were ruthlessly carried from their home by the Bolsheviks and banished to the dreadful camp in the North. The letter says:

"Peace be unto you! With thanks which are too deep for words, I write to inform you that I have received your gift. My little sister and brother are full of thanksgiving in their tiny hearts, too. I wonder whether you know that our darling dad and mother are not with us. We are all right. Once more, I thank you sincerely. Some of the food I tasted for the first time in my life. Oh, there are many things that I do not know anything about as yet! I plan to go to see my dear mother soon and I will then share with her what you have sent me."

SOWING THE SEED

By K. Jaroszuk

I HAVE visited many villages during the course of the last month. Besides holding revival and prayer meetings and administering holy communion, I visited in Polish, Jewish, and Russian homes. Much literature has been given out. The people are poor and cannot pay for the literature, so they ask for free tracts. We would be glad to have some money given us for this purpose. The people listen eagerly to our messages, with tears in their eyes. Sometimes the meetings continue for hours. Then they beg me to come back and hold more meetings with them.

REDEMPTION—FORGIVENESS—PEACE

Do I need redemption? We have redemption through His blood, an eternal redemption, for "by His own blood, He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption."

Do I need forgiveness? That redemption which I have through His blood is the forgiveness of sins—yea, without shedding of blood is no remission.

Do I need peace? He has made peace through the blood of His cross.—*J. N. Darby.*

Let us talk to Jesus—we never can talk to Him too confidentially or too much.—*Rev. P. B. Power.*

Reaching Other Regions

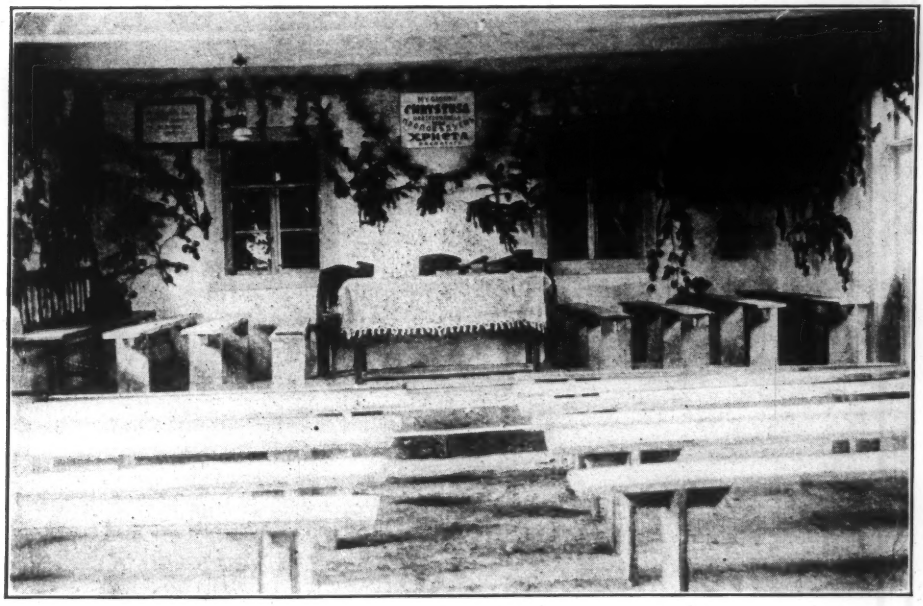
By George Nazaruk

GREETING in the Name of Jesus Christ to you and everybody in our Fellowship mission. As in past years, I want you to know that I am going to remember you all before the Lord—in my private prayers, in prayer with my family, and with all the believers in Ozenin and the surrounding district. I want to consecrate more fully my life to the Lord and His service, wherever He may lead me. I am asking Him to teach me how to pray for His children everywhere, especially for the brethren and sisters in America, who are so dear to my heart.

In the beginning of this new year we held nightly meetings in our church for a week, and God wonderfully blessed all our members, for, when we began to pray for others, we found out our own faults and began to confess them before our Lord. We were thinking especially about the be'ievers in Russia, and about the missionaries in many different countries, and those who are supporting them. We held nightly meetings in the beginning of February, also, praying especially for France and for our Russian and Ukrainian people there. Some Christian workers are trying to evangelize them and have asked us to specially remember them before God. We find that we are strengthened ourselves when praying for others.

I want to ask all my dear friends to remember me this year especially, because I want to do more evangelistic work. When I was in America ten years ago, I promised the Lord, "When Thou wilt bring me back to my people in Poland, I will go from one place to another with Thy precious message of salvation." I remained in Ozenin for quite a little while, as the Lord's people there wanted me to finish a church building for them and to register the church, and certainly God helped us in all this work.

During my stay in Ozenin, it was impossible for me to visit many other places. In many villages there were no meetings held and the believers became weak and too tired to walk 15 to 30 kilometers to a meeting. When those believers met



Chapel at Ozenin, Poland (Interior)

me, they asked me why I had not visited them for so long a time. I kept promising to come, until finally, on January 12th, I put the matter before my church in Ozenin, asking them to give me a vacation of a year or more, not for rest but for harder work. I told them, "I have done everything I could for you, and now God wants me to do something for others, as well. I believe I would be sinning against God and my dear friends in America if I used the Lord's money just working in one place." Then the church asked one of the deacons to take charge of the meetings for one year, and he consented. I am very thankful to my Lord and to the church for giving me this opportunity for which I had been longing. For a few weeks I traveled alone, with God's blessing. Then He sent me a helper, a Hebrew Christian from London who wanted to study the Russian and Polish languages, in order to increase his usefulness. As we go from one place to another, I act as his interpreter. He is teaching me English and I am teaching him Russian. How precious are God's promises! "Your Heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things" (Matt. 6:32).

In the city of Ostrog we held special meetings for Jews. In every village there are some Jews who gladly hear the Word of God, and we Gentiles are very thankful to God for the opportunity to reach the Jews in our midst. One visit to a village is not enough—both Jews and Gentiles want us to come again. During the month of February we visited ten villages. In each of these we held more than one meeting, and in the city of Ostrog three meetings. In one new place, Wiltoduwka, twenty souls were present, all unbelievers.

I want to ask my friends in America, who know me and are helping me, to earnestly remember these places in prayer, especially this new one. Remember me, also, a poor missionary, for I need extra boots and shoes for these journeys, and my wife, too, as she will often go with me. We held 28 meetings during the month of February, and that meant that I spoke more than 50 times, as I interpreted for the other brother. We traveled more than 200 kilometers, walking 10 to 30 kilometers from village to village. There were only four days when it was impossible to make visits because of the cold weather. In each meeting there were from 20 to 150 present. Many tracts were distributed, as well as two Bibles and many Testaments. I need more money for Scriptures. I ask the special prayers of God's people, that the Lord's presence might be with me all this year in His service.

A WORD FROM THE RUSSIAN BORDER

By Nikita Mosherenok

I THANK you most heartily, my dear brethren, for the help you have been sending me. I am working for the Lord all the time, to the limit of my strength. I spent several weeks again on the frontier of Russia, where I preached to many people in our Brother Moriakoff's district. Several new converts asked me to baptize them. The Lord is reviving His work and the people are seeking God's truth. He deigns to use me, His weak servant. My full trust is in Him. I greet you from the depths of my heart.

AMONG RUSSIANS IN MANCHURIA

By S. P. Badantseff

WHEN I was in Hailar, I was invited by the people to preach the gospel to them. There was a certain woman there who was a member of the Greek Orthodox church and a very great enemy of our evangelical meetings. After hearing us preach the gospel, she went to the Russian priest and inquired whether what we preached was a true gospel. He gave her an affirmative answer, and after that she had much fellowship with us.

The Russian refugees are being united into organizations which use their influence against our meetings, in some cases being able to close them. But God is with us and will overcome all our obstacles.

There are many poor, distressed people among our Russian refugees, some of whom are spiritually hungry. I want to visit them and give them some little crumbs from what I have, and I trust that the Lord will enable me to carry on this ministry. Pray for me that I may be an obedient instrument of the Holy Ghost.

"He that abideth in Me . . . bringeth forth much fruit" (John 15:5). Union with Christ, and abiding in Christ, what do they not secure? Peace, perfect peace; rest, constant rest; answers to all our prayers; victory over all our foes; pure, holy living; ever-increasing fruitfulness. All, all of these are the glad outcome of abiding in Christ.

—*Hudson Taylor.*

Blessing Amid Opposition

By Fred Stettler

IT AFFORDS us pleasure to give an account of the month that has just closed. It was such an important and busy one. January is the best month for evangelistic meetings in all Poland. For five years or more, we have endeavored to reserve this month for a large gospel tour each year into the most remote regions of Poland. Our aim is "northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward" (Gen. 13:14).

Although our physical condition was far from good, we trusted the promises, which are "Yea and Amen," and God blessed this venture of faith, as He has so often done. Man never knows how strong he is until a thing must be done. And is the "Go ye" not God's imperative?

A year ago last fall, we were called upon to evangelize in a little village. Not much unusual was expected, but during the series of meetings we found that four rooms were filled with people and about twelve souls were saved. The rooms in this private house would not hold the many who came, so we encouraged the people to build and thus make more room. Last summer they put up a hall for about $400.00 or $500.00. It is not yet all paid —you can still have a share in it! This year these people asked me to come again for a series of meetings. Every place in the hall was taken, so that I usually gave up my seat on the platform and the children were asked to sit on the floor around the platform. This year again, about ten were awakened and have accepted the Lord. The believers are so happy and the work seems to grow in a wonderful way.

We have much cause to praise God! Some of the calls that I made at bedsides were the last, as two persons have already gone into eternity. Five years ago, when I first visited Galicia, there was one group of believers; this time I visited five places. The Lord has done great things, whereof we are glad. I traveled 200 kilometers in wagons drawn by horses. The wheels often sank to the hub in the mire, and we often found holes in the roads where horse and wagon might both be drawn down into the mud. But what a refreshing to meet the brethren!

There is one Roman Catholic company of believers that I visited for the first time, though we have corresponded with them for four years. Formerly they wrote: "Do not come, for the people threaten to kill any outsiders who dare to come with religion." Some years ago, a believer gave a New Testament to the worst man in the place. He worked in a store. One day the village priest dropped in and said: "What did you drop so quickly into the drawer? Let me see it." At first he said, "Oh, it is just a book that the reverend would not like to see." But curiosity demanded that the priest see the book. Finally the man showed it to the priest, asking him, "Please, father, am I permitted to read this?" After looking at it, the priest said it was the right kind of a book but special permission from the bishop would be needed. The priest maintained that even *he* needed special permission

Mr. Stettler Starting on a Journey

if he wanted to read any other portion than that which the church prescribes for every Sunday. Several days later, the priest came again and strictly forbade him to read the book. But the good man had already found eternal life in it and, after comparing his Testament with the Scriptures in the church and finding them identical, he would have given his very life for it.

Now there is a group of believers there. But if you knew all the hardships and trials, all the persecution and denunciations on the part of the priests and the populace, you would hardly believe that this is possible from the "holy" and "oldest" church. While I was there, another strong man was saved. The meeting is wholly made up of men, with the exception of one sister, as the women are so afraid. The windows have been smashed again and again.

While I was there, a brother came to the meeting bruised and with a big hole in his coat—his beloved (?) wife had done it. She was so enraged that he had dared to go to the meeting. One night fifty men sought to kill him. Not long ago, he put up several Scripture texts on the walls of his home. When his wife came home, she tore them down and threw them on the floor. Then the husband said: "Well, if these words of God have no right there, your idols and holy pictures must come down, too." He cleared the wall and threw the "holy water" basin out the door. Police and clergy were called and the believer had to go to court, but, happily, the judge let him go free without paying a fine.

Now the believers are growing in grace and searching the Scriptures, as we wish every Protestant might do. They meet every evening and stay together until midnight, and the Lord adds one after another. They need our prayers, as the possibilities of a livelihood are very difficult among a population of fanatical Catholics, who are instigated by the clergy to every meanness imaginable. They had in mind to smash the windows of the meeting house, just as they have done in the past, but they were afraid they might afterward, by order of the sheriff, have to stand and watch by this very house during the night, while we prayed, sang, and preached the gospel.

Poland is a country with religious liberty, and yet it often occurs that the local authorities do every mean thing to hinder the preaching of the message of salvation. Very often the clergy, police, and local authorities work together harmoniously. Thus, they wanted to send me 30 kilometers to the sheriff to report there. Now, if you have any idea of Polish roads, especially at that particular time, you would know how impossible this was. I would have needed two days to report and come back—and I often stay only two or three days in a place! After two hours of "hard" talk with the local police, they finally let me go. Thus, in every new place, this reporting at headquarters requires much time, many times including a half day or even a whole day of travel. Every local chief interprets rules differently and one is never sure what they will demand. In one case I was simply forced to make a journey of 16 kilometers through a swamp to say good-morning and get my passport. Every foreigner is looked upon as a criminal with criminal intention. How much patience is needed in order to be a testimony in such cases! It is pioneer work and someone must be willing to start. Where there is no start, there can be no progress, nor can there be any finishing of work. All new work looks very discouraging at first, but we have found again and again that virgin soil bears the most wonderful crops. And did not Christ Himself *go after* that which was lost *until* He found it?

Some of our worst enemies are usually found among the clergy, and also the public school teachers, who usually cooperate very closely with the clergy. In a certain place, a teacher stirred up the young people against the meeting of the believers and one evening they came and threw a pot of (Excuse me!) human excrement toward the window of the meeting room. However, the Lord graciously protected the believers. Instead of going *through* the window, it hit the frame and fell down outside the house. Several months later, this very same teacher harvested the fruits of his own sowing. His own young people, without instigation, did this very same thing at his private home. The only difference was that they hit well, smashing the window and soiling the piano and room. Instead of keeping quiet and seeing his own fault, he got the police, and the whole public witnessed the deeds of the youngsters. The teacher had to leave the place, with insults heaped on him by his own people. "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

We would like to say, however, that on our last

journey we found school teachers who came to our meetings, even though this might cost them their daily bread. Yea, in one case we had wonderful opportunities, with conversations concerning the Scriptures and salvation that lasted until midnight. We also found a truly saved pastor of the state church. For the first time in my experience I was invited to preach in the parsonage, where about 150 came together for a message every evening. His predecessor had usually played cards all day with his elders, and now they can hardly believe that they should repent and be saved. When he preached conversion, a spirited woman got up and declared that they did not believe it. Other people are so amazed, saying he preaches *only the Bible!* According to the pastor, about sixty have already been saved.

The whole clergy is against him and have twice sent out committees to examine church and people. The pastor's position is a very hard one, and I would ask you to pray for him. He and his wife are saints of God and are willing to preach the whole counsel of God, cost what it will. His flock live up in the Carpathian mountains and are very poor. A man with a horse and wagon, logging timber from the mountain side to the mill, earns ten cents a day and must furnish his own meals, as well as fodder for his horse. I saw women literally clothed in rags and tatters, barefooted, *in the month of January*, up in the mountains. I saw women walking ten miles to market during the winter time—in cold, wind, snow, or rain—*without stockings!* Their bare knees were more blue than red. What a privilege to preach unto such the good tidings, for they are broken-hearted, mourning, and of a heavy spirit! The gospel is, indeed, unto them "beauty for ashes, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness."

All in all, I held in January forty-two meetings and visited nine villages. In order to travel eight or nine hours by railway, I had to transfer five times and wait fifteen hours for connections. Thus, days and nights are spent on errands for the King. The conditions are very unfavorable, but these only show how much these people need the Word of God.

This month we shall again be able to print a small edition of Russian tracts. We have ordered 3,000 copies, and each tract has 32 pages. We have been asked repeatedly whether we could not supply some. Through the courtesy of the general secretary, we could again send out 10,000 Berean booklets in the German, Polish, and Russian languages. We are glad that this testimony is possible, praising God for all those who, from time to time, have sent in a contribution for the literature fund.

Mrs. Stettler has held her girls' meeting regularly, each Sunday evening. Usually they come together on Wednesday evening, too, when they read the Word, pray together, and listen to a short message. Afterward they do some gospel singing. For the last five years, Mrs. Stettler has had a longing to have some kind of musical instrument in the house. She had nearly forgotten what she once knew about playing the organ. I heard that an organ could be bought cheap ($30.00) and I thought, "Now or never!" Thus, we got the organ, and now the girls can learn to sing the hymns as they should be sung. With the exception of the larger city churches, there are usually no organs in any of the meetings. All the singing must be done without notes, which is quite a strain on the preacher. Yet, you would be surprised to find how well the people learn to sing. We are hoping to organize a choir, but we cannot accomplish everything at once. The meeting here is one of the very few which can boast of a brass band and an orchestra of stringed instruments. There is still much room for improvement, but we are thankful for what we have.

One thing that rests as a great burden upon us, for the work here, is that the Christians may learn to get away from their self interest and superficial complacency; that they may hold true to the Scriptures during the rapid advance of the nationalistic tendencies of the present age; that many may learn to know Christ in a country where unemployment is assuming such tragic proportions. Yea, many churches need a gracious reviving (Psa. 58:6; Isa. 57:15) and a far deeper concern for the lost.

To all of you who have been praying and thinking of us, we would like to return our sincere thanks for every token of encouragement, all of which have meant so much to us.

The depths of our misery can never fall below the depths of mercy.—*R. Sibbes.*

A Difficult Ministry

By C. Marvakoff (Bulgaria)

GOD has given us the privilege of entering into another year's work among the Pomaks, and the Lord Jesus has also given me new vision, new strength, and new hope for the work before me.

I wish to thank you for the help given for evangelization work amongst the Pomaks. I hear that you have sent $10.00 for buying the Holy Scriptures for use among them. This was much needed, and I thank God for giving it to me through you. Perhaps many of our little books have been torn to pieces, possibly others have been burned, but others have been read through and it makes my heart glad when I hear these Pomaks tell how they have been reading the Word.

At present, some of our Bulgarian friends are visiting our services regularly. Our prayer is that our Lord may open the heart of each visitor, so that the Word of the gospel may enter and that they may turn to the Lord and learn to know Him.

The Pomaks are a very hard people to reach—we find it so in our work—but not too hard for our Lord. When I look at myself and my own strength, I feel that I am not able to continue in the work. But when I look to God and fully depend on His strength, power, and wisdom, and count on Him, I make up my mind that I will never leave the work, for God is with me. What I am not able to do, He will do, and will perfect that which concerneth me. So, by His grace, I will continue in His work, to God's honor and glory. The Pomaks have not yet come to the place of believing in Christ, but they are listening to the Word of the One who was crucified, who died for our sins and rose again for our justification in God's sight.

In the beginning, I was not able to draw any pictures for them, but now they are ready for them. Sometimes there is a real battle (in words) concerning the Mohammedan and Christian religions, but one must expect that before they come to a knowledge of the truth and believe. I am trying hard to find out God's will and way to approach the Pomaks, and I find He is leading me in His own way. I am very thankful to my God for that. I thank God, too, for your kind interest in our evangelical work among the Pomaks in Bulgaria.

Power Through Prayer

The mighty Holy Spirit moves to mighty prayer. This prayer is continually round us, like a shield which nothing can pierce; it is behind us, with immense driving power. When we go on our Master's errands, we are consciously enabled, consciously uplifted; often we know that something not to be accounted for by the little we could do, has been done.—*Amy Wilson Carmichael.*

God's heart overflows with pity, His mouth utters words of the most tender love, and His hand can make all things new. I will trust in Him, for my confidence is founded on His grace, His faithfulness, and power in Christ Jesus.—*George Muller.*

If each worker realizes himself as a temple of the living God, an instrument possessed and governed and used by the Almighty, there is no place for discouragement. Before Him, the hard, dry rock shall be turned into a pool, the flint into a fountain of waters.—*Hudson Taylor.*

WORD has come telling of the passing away of Rev. Richard W. Hill, our veteran missionary in Roumania. We trust in a later issue to give some particulars concerning Mr. Hill's life and ministry. In the meantime, may we ask our readers to remember Mrs. Hill and the son, Richard, in special prayer. Also the work in Roumania, that it may be conserved and sustained through this hard trial that has befallen the work and workers in the loss of Mr. Hill.

A Wonderful Deliverance

By Alexander Svarichevsky

This very intelligent young officer of the Russian army was recently converted to the Lord, and he has sent his testimony to be published in Vernost-Faithfulness, *the Russian magazine of which our brother, Alexander Dobrinin, is the editor. Before printing it in* Vernost, *however, Brother Dobrinin has given us these refreshing lines for use in* The European Harvest Field. *The testimony, in the original Russian, is written in fine, poetic style, which is very difficult to translate, so we have here the bare substance of the article. The description of the life of the author is typical of that of many Russians, during the awful years of the World War and the Revolution in Russia.*

NO man is able to pluck them out of My Father's hand" (John 10: 29). (In Russian, the word "pluck" would be rendered "steal").

As I look back upon the happy days of my childhood, I think especially of the spring season, when, after nature's long winter sleep, we heard the stir of the rushing streams which brought the great floes of ice from the North. Spring in Russia is rather peculiar, for tremendous power is needed to free nature from the long, severe Russian winter. My most fascinating play, as a child, was to make little tin boats, use small stones for passengers, and then launch these boats on the rushing streams, in the midst of every kind of danger.

Many years of my life passed by, while I directed my own boat on life's tempestuous sea. Storms and rocks threatened to overwhelm me. The world, and especially Russia, was hurrying along so fast that I could scarcely see the mirrored surface of the water. My heart was rebelling and revolting all the time. Oh, my poor heart, where art thou rushing? At times fireworks sprang up in my life, and then again everything became dark and dull.

At the age of nine, I studied the Sermon on the Mount in the regular Russian school. My little heart felt the grandeur and wisdom of the divine words, and I had an exalted feeling. Unconsciously, I sought the full truths of God, and I confessed the faith as only a child can do. Two years later, in the wonderful summer days, I came across a booklet by the Russian priest, John of Kronstadt. It was an eager call to Christians: "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at Hand. The Bridegroom Is Coming!" I knelt and prayed, promising God to devote my whole life to Him. I asked Him, in His mercy, to accept me and number me among His servants. I wanted to make an outward sign of my vow and, being foolish, I thought it would be all right to wound myself, just as a reminder of this wonderful experience. This plan was all my own—it was not the custom among Russians to do this. I held a knife in my hand, intending to cut the great toe on my foot. I did not have will power or strength enough to make a deep gash, and I thought a slight wound would soon heal, so I put my knife away without fulfilling my plan.

Some years passed away. I sat reading in a cozy room of our wooden house, before a round table on which an old-fashioned kerosene lamp was burning. The charm of the home was increased by the sounds from the cold world without. An old man, a neighbor, came in just to have a little chat, and he said to me, "I see you are studying all the time. That's all right, but when you grow up, you will say there is no God." His words irritated me, and in self-confidence I replied, "That can never be the case with me."

However, I was influenced by the boys at the middle classical school, who talked among themselves in secret, declaring that there is no God. Once, while walking with a classmate, I asked Him, "Dimitry, is there a God?" The winter storm was raging as he replied, "No, there is no God." "But who told you?" I asked him again, to which he replied, "I studied it out for myself." This older boy thus threw into my soul the poisonous seed of unbelief.

In 1917 the Russian Revolution broke out, and the people were all upset. The quiet peace of our

country was all gone. It was summer in Moscow. Our military camp was occupying the beautiful park. The white tents looked very attractive. Beautiful trees adorned our camp, the air was filled with fragrance, the birds were cheerfully singing. Yet, in the midst of this beautiful environment, I saw revolution, and a professor, a talented writer, said to me, "There is no God."

Siberia! Communistic agitation destroying the army! The beast instincts in man were stirred up. The soldiers were angry with the officers and there was danger of mob violence. My heart became more and more hardened.

Then the Polish front, the firing line! The military cars were moving slowly through sticky mud. Rain was falling. The soldiers were in distress, meditating about home, wife, and children, while the terrible war went on. The bombs whizzed and the guns sounded all around us. We hid ourselves in the trenches and wondered what it was all about. We were destroying the Germans and they were destroying us! My soul was filled with tormenting questions which I could not settle.

The priest arranged for a service, but his indifferent, monotonous voice was too dull and there were few worshipers. A candle broke, the wax melted, the light went out, and I thought, "That is exactly like my life." However, my life was not quite quenched.

A Bolshevistic agitator came. He arranged for a political meeting. He had an ugly, long face, his speech was repulsive, but he was warm—hot—eager—and he caught the common soldiers. He pictured a delightful socialist kingdom, above the power of the peasants and laborers. The mob listened eagerly, and then broke into shouts, "Home, home!" and left the front. This is typical of all revolutions, in all countries, at any time.

In 1919 we were surrounded by our enemies. Death stared us in the face—but I was saved. In 1920 I was caught by the agents of the Bolshevistic G. P. U., but a chance acquaintance with one of these agents in the past proved the means of saving my life.

Manchuria! Five of us men ran away from the "Red" army. The stars were our only guides and we could not get our bearings. We were tormented by hunger. After sleepless nights and walking through unknown places, in the midst of great dangers, our strength was exhausted. We were caught by the "Reds" on the frontier, but again my life was spared. In Harbin I was attacked by Chinese bandits, who shouted, "Stop!" Rifles were aimed at my head, but I escaped unharmed.

Through all these years I was trying in vain to live a moral life, being a sinner. Once I attended a Greek Orthodox church, not that I was attracted in the first place by the service, but some of my friends worshiped there. I began to frequent the church, even taking part in the singing of the prayers and Psalms. I learned to like the simplicity of this little church, which was built in a very primitive way. The altar was unusual, for it was so very poor. The gray-haired priest was clad in very poor ritual garments and walked about ten miles to get to the place of worship. He himself rang the bell for the service—or rather, a crudely constructed substitute. I was not able to pray at all, but a certain peace filled my heart. I liked the path which led to the little church, which had formerly been a mill. It led through green fields and flowers, with butterflies adding charm to the picture.

After this, I was visited by one misfortune after another, but, strange to say. I did not turn to God in my trouble. I was dismissed from my work. My horse almost trampled me to death. My dear wife died. All my property was destroyed by a flood, and I was compelled to watch the waters rising and rising until everything was gone. Even a hundred-year-old tree was broken before my eyes. At this time, my thoughts went back to my childhood.

In this extremity, when overwhelmed by poverty and all the tragic events that had come into my life, I was given a Bible. I read it, and was struck anew with the divine wisdom and power of this eternal Book. For the first time since my boyhood, I began to pray. The light of God's mercy and love shone into the darkness of my heart. It quieted and comforted me, and a little faith was kindled in my heart. Still filled with doubts, I approached this wonderful light, through the deep darkness with which I was surrounded. In this condition I remained for about a year. The marvelous goodness of God's love drew me, but the power of sin kept me fettered. This was a year of extreme struggling on my part, with much doubt and little faith.

At last the blessed day came when God's Word drove me to my knees and great joy sprang up in my soul. God revealed to me the depth of the comforting words of His all-forgiving love. The following verse was the foundation of my conversion: "God was in Christ, *reconciling* the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them" (II Cor. 5: 19). I believed in God. There came to my conscience the firm conviction that this reconciliation was my own. Oh, the great, unsurpassed love of God! Oh, merciful Father, Creator of heaven and earth, Thou dost not impute to me my unspeakable trespasses against Thee! I am not worthy of Thy condescension. I deserved punishment for my sin, and Thou hast forgiven me. I knew Thee from my childhood days, I received life and health from Thee, but I was ungrateful. I lived a carnal life, I abused my freedom, and blasphemed. I laughed at Thy love and trampled it with unclean feet. I rebelled against Thee as Creator of the universe. In my unbelief, I pushed away Thy kind, loving hand. I did not recognize Thee as Omnipotent God. I took the side of Thy enemies and Satan, but Thou didst continue to love me, even in my sinful error, and Thou didst seek and find me in my haunts of unbelief. Thou hast healed me—Thou hast taken away my blindness—Thou has resurrected me from the dead to a new life in Thee!

My heart is now filled with joy, peace, rest, and thanksgiving to my Saviour, Jesus Christ. He has separated me from the world. My heart is filled with a new song, a song of spiritual freedom. To Thee, O God, be endless glory!

Blind, Hardened Hearts

By Charles Lukesh

(Czechoslovakia)

I PRAISE the Lord that He has enabled me to continue in His service, although, by burning the candle at both ends, there was a danger of burning out altogether. We are determined not to let any hirelings creep into this work, though there is a great need for help that is genuinely consecrated. Thus, I was thankful for the return of Mrs. Lukesh and her taking part anew with me in the struggle for the salvation of souls. When one is daily engaged in the battle, much becomes commonplace experience, but when Mrs. Lukesh returned, after a season in different environment, everyday sights loomed up before her in all their hideousness. How it struck her to notice all the ignorance and superstition! How it appalled her to see the unwillingness to believe the living gospel! How sad that never-dying souls will not receive eternal life as a gift from God, but rather deceive themselves by some pretensions of religious practices, not very different from those of raw heathen!

In our contacts with the people, expecially in the villages, the stirring up of the people to fanaticism in the vain defense of their deceitful religion, is strikingly apparent. It breaks one's heart to see how stoutly they refuse to listen to the message about the very love of God. A woman recently said to me, in order to avoid listening, "This is not a confessional!" The thought of not being ashamed of the Lord before people is a strange one to her and she would not take notice of that, either. Another, being offered a tract to read, exclaimed in horror: "I can't read that! Who knows what it is?" All assurance that it was about the Lord Jesus was in vain. A good deal of this enmity is due to the Sabbatists and Russellites, who at times swamp the country with their pernicious doctrines and create suspicion and hatred.

All the pretended religiousness of the people does not keep them from committing all sorts of sinful excesses. In the fall, when the harvest has been gathered in, the season of so-called church dedication festivals is on. Alternating from village to village, under the pretense of the holy feast, drunken men go in groups through the streets, causing fights which end in serious injuries and often murder.

Such were the sights Mrs. Lukesh had to face upon her return home, which could not but make her heart cry out to God for the power of the Holy Spirit to convict these perishing souls of their sinful darkness under the guise of religion. We are willing to be burned upon the altar as a living sacrifice, and fear it will be but too soon, for it takes the very life out of the body to face this struggle continually. There is the opportunity for willing ones to pour in a little oil, so that the fire may last a bit longer and some souls be saved before it is eternally too late.

There is a saying that oil is cheaper than steel, and this saying may be interpreted thus, that money is cheaper than experienced workers. We are willing to be offered up, yet it is your privilege to uphold us, so that the little candle does not have to burn at both ends. Is not the saying still good—"Other sheep I have . . . them also I must bring?" Shall we be less faithful because most of our work is necessarily for the "other sheep?" Is it, therefore, less worthy of your prayers? That we must leave to you to consider, for we can only present the case and plead for that which is before us.

RESTORATION

By D. Prystupa

I HAVE just returned from a nine-day missionary trip, when I visited seven villages, far removed from one another. We had revival meetings each evening and the Lord blessed my ministry. In three places we observed the Lord's Supper.

There is quite a revival in progress in the village of Borki. Five years ago this village was stirred by God's Word. The revival then went so far that a prayer house was built. The congregation at that time consisted of 63 members, but Satan has been doing his utmost to injure the work and there are only 20 left, some of these being only half alive. Now the Lord is working anew in the hearts of these people. I have been there several times. Many people came to the meetings, and backsliders returned to the Lord, confessing their sins before God. I am trying to help these people and I ask you for your prayers, that I may be more capable of carrying on this spiritual work.

The district I serve is very large and the people are very ignorant and poor. I must teach them even the ordinary things of everyday life. The souls of these poor people are no less precious in God's sight than those of more intelligent people, and the common people often possess more of the fear of God.

I plan to visit other places and hold meetings. Let us work while it is day, for the night is coming and our work will be forced to discontinue. I send my hearty brotherly greetings to all in the Fellowship.

Let us keep our hearts open, so that all the Lord has prepared for us may come into us.

—*Dr. Reuben Saillens.*

OUR APPRECIATIVE READERS

"I rejoice in the work God is doing through you. The magazine has broadened my vision and enlarged my heart. May His blessing continue with you!"

"How my heart follows the faithful workers of the FELLOWSHIP, and how their victories in the Lord and their struggles and testings become ours as we hold them in our heart before the Lord!"

"The European Harvest Field is a valued magazine in our home, and I enclose subscription for three years to come."

"I wish to renew my subscription to your very valuable magazine. I only wish I could subscribe for all my friends. It is certainly very wonderful and very encouraging the way those dear, faithful missionaries are carrying on, in spite of all the privations, persecutions and lack of the financial aid they so sorely need. I do hope the *Fellowship* will be able to publish the Harvest Field to the end of time, and that I may be able to subscribe for it as long as I live, and to pray for you and all the wonderful people of whom you tell us."

"Reading your magazine, with first-aid information from the workers of God throughout Europe, surely puts the burden of prayer upon our hearts for the many unsaved souls who, through ignorance and fear, have never heard the precious gospel. Even as this is written, I am sending up a prayer to our God, who is able to do the impossible, to bless your work, to sustain it, and to undertake for you in the noble work you are doing. What a privilege we have, as believers, to pray for each other, and how wonderfully God honors and blesses such prayers!"

"The Harvest Field is a splendid periodical and deserves a wide circulation, because it is sound in doctrine and aims to bring the gospel to the storm center of the world. I pray daily for all the workers, here at home and on the field."

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